Paul Morantz A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 2 P.O. Box 511 Pacific Palisades CA 90272 3 (213) 459-4745 4 5 Attorney for Defendant 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 10 CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY CASE NO. C 420153 OF CALIFORNIA 11 Plaintiff, REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO MOTIONS FOR SETTLEMENT 12 AGREEMENT AND EXHIBITS VS. 13 GERALD ARMSTRONG, ET AL 14 FEBRUARY 21, 1989 Defendant. DEPT. 56 15 9:00 A.M. 16 This is a reply by Defendant Bent Corydon to the 17 Oppositions to both Motions pending before the Court on this 18 date. 19 I. SETTLEMENT OF THE ARMSTRONG ACTION. 20 1. In their Opposition, Plaintiffs admit there was a 21 requirement to file a settlement agreement under seal, and 22 further admit that they did not. While they indicate Judge 23. Breckenridge became aware of this, they cite no orders that he 24 ever relieved them from the obligation. 25 2. In fact, the settlement agreement becomes more relevant 26 due to the argument asserted by Plaintiffs in opposition herein 27 to having to return exhibits. They argue that pursuant to the 28 stipulation and settlement, certain issues (damages) remain

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viable in their appeal before the Appellate Court.

- 3. However, the appeal that was discussed in the transcipt of the proceedings (attached to Plaintiffs' opposition) was later dismissed as premature.
- 4. A subsequent appeal was filed on February 9, 1987 $\underline{\text{after}}$ the case was settled.
- 5. Plaintiffs, who are represented by the same attorneys who represent two Scientology officials, Heber Jentzsch and John Carmichael, who are suing Bent Corydon for defamation, and who represent the Church of Scientology which is also suing Bent Corydon for defamation, seek to prevent collateral estoppel effect of Judge Breckenridge's decision by arguing an appeal is pending.
- 6. Should it turn out that the appeal is not bona fide, or collusion, i.e., there has been in reality a mutual settlement and no plans to proceed against Mr. Armstrong for damages in the underlying complaint, but only plans to kill its collateral estoppel effect, then Mr. Corydon can seek the proper relief from the Appellate Court.
- 7. It would be inherently strange that Mr. Armstrong's counsel would allow Mr. Armstrong to settle his cross-complaint with the proviso that he may still be <u>sued</u> for damages following underlying appeal and must bear the expense of said appeal. And this after the return of documents sued over.
- 8. Even more strange would be that Armstrong counsel would unoppose a motion to set aside the judgement on the complaint, exposing his client to suit. These actions could only follow because there is an agreement that the complaint will never be

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- 9. If the Plaintiffs herein deny the same, it becomes highly relevant to Mr. Corydon to examine their copy of the settlement agreement in order to present his argument that the appeal of this case is a sham designed to prevent Scientology from suffering collateral estoppel effect from Judge Breckenridge's decision.
- 10. In addition, the moving papers point out that the settlement agreement we have attached clearly supports the finding that Plaintiffs, and their counsel, are involved in the obstruction of justice, i.e., the paying off of key witnesses so they will not assist parties adverse to Scientology.
- 11. As previously stated, Mr. Corydon has been sued for defamation, and Mr. Gerald Armstrong was a <u>source</u> of information for the communications he made that he was sued over. Mr. Armstrong is <u>not</u> within the judicial jurisdiction and cannot be compelled to testify in court unless he will voluntarily appear. Costs of out-of-state depositions are expensive, and are not the same as live testimony. Further, it is an obstruction of justice to just force such expense upon a defendant.
- 12. In the moving papers we have argued that what we understand to be in the settlement agreement is an obstruction of justice, unclean hands, and will entitle Mr. Corydon to dismissals.

- 13. In fact, a motion to dismiss based upon what we contend is the settlement agreement has already been made in the Coordinated Defamation Actions, but has been taken off calendar until Defendant Corydon's Summary Judgment has been ruled upon. Even if Mr. Corydon wins that Summary Judgment Motion, should the Plaintiffs therein appeal, we will still go forward with that motion. Highly germane will be Plaintiff's copy of the settlement agreement that Judge Breckenridge had ordered to be filed herein.
- 14. Plaintiffs argue that their actions are appropriate and are not an obstruction of justice. We contend otherwise and are prepared to take our argument to the highest court.
- 15. However, that issue is not for this court to decide. This court need only recognize that the issue exists and is to be decided in the courts where the lawsuits against Mr. Corydon are pending. Here the issue is only whether or not the agreement is relevant to those issues in Mr. Corydon's defense.
- 16. Plaintiffs herein argue that the settlement agreement was supposed to be filed under seal, and therefore it was bargained for that it would be protected.
- 17. As stated in the original motion made before this court to allow inspection of the file, bargained for agreements will not prevent an interested party from obtaining relevant documents for his legal defense. Parties may not bargain between themselves to secrete evidence from a third party defendant. We stipulate that such document will be subject to the current orders of the Court of Appeals re disclosure.

- 18. Plaintiffs point out that C.C.P. 1952 was not cited in the moving papers. 1952a, while allowing for retention, does <u>not allow for destruction</u>. When read in conjunction with the other sections, it is clear that the allowance of these documents to be returned to respective parties is in trust.
- 19. The very transcript attached to the opposing papers argues that the Appellate Court had the exhibits necessary to the appeal. It further states that when the case was over and those documents were returned they would go to the Plaintiffs. Further, the opposing papers states that those documents were returned from the Appellate Court and then given to the Plaintiffs because the appeal was, in fact, dismissed, as premature.
- 20. Thus, having the documents, Plaintiffs filed a second appeal on February 9, 1987. This time, the Appellate Court does not have the documents it had before it during the first appeal. (This gives further credence to the argument that the appeal is not in good faith.)
- 21. Thus, as an appeal is pending, while Plaintiffs may have retention, the same is in trust, and as they were marked and entered into evidence, are still public records. Further, by example, the Appellate Court, as admitted in the transcript, once designated 50 such exhibits it wished to examine, and could conceivably do so again.
- 22. In summation, when all the arguments are cut through, what is before the court is an over-all plan to secrete documents and relevant evidence from adverse Scientology litigants and to

23. Armstrong, and his counsel, for their part, received considerable monies. Scientology may have bargained for the secretion, but the same is against public policy.

III. EXISTING EXHIBITS

- 24. As pointed out in the moving papers, the court ordered as to existing documents that discovery be propounded and that they are to be answered. We point to specific language of the court ordering the answers.
- 25. The opposition states that the Interrogatory answers were propounded to the wrong parties, i.e., two "Presidents" of Scientology corporations rather than Scientology. They further indicate that the undersigned advised the court they were not parties and that the court directed that discovery be served upon a non-party. This is not correct. The undersigned's fear was that the Defamation Plaintiffs will respond by saying that they "do not know." The court then suggested service upon Scientology.
- 26. This is not a case where the Plaintiffs in the defamation cases responded that they did not know, but instead refused to answer at all, stating spurious objections which violate the intent of this court's order. What's important to note is that the attorneys for the Plaintiffs herein are also the attorneys for Carmichael and Jentzsch who are suing Corydon. Carmichael and Jentzsch are Presidents of Scientology corporations. They do have access to the information. In fact, their opposition to their Summary Judgement Motion, provided many

documents from Scientology, and an affidavit of a Scientologist re Scientology records.

- 27. We remind the court that the court's tentative ruling was to allow these exhibits to be inspected. No privilege was found to apply. It was after oral argument that the court decided to have the issue of relevance first examined and ordered that discovery requests be first sent. It also provided the court may further inspect the documents themselves to determine the issue.
- 28. Having acquiesed to this request by the Plaintiffs, after a contrary tentative ruling, the spirit has clearly been violated by the refusal of Jentzsch and Carmichael, represented by herein counsel for Plaintiffs, to respond to discovery request. Therefore, it is respectively submitted that the court go back to its tentative ruling which was to allow an inspection and copy of these documents. In so doing, we agree that the usage of these documents shall be subject to the current orders of the Appellate Court concerning usage same until the determination of that appeal, or future order.

IV. DISCOVERY.

29. Plaintiffs argue that in the Carmichael-Jentzsch case, there is a stay on discovery pending determination of a Summary Judgement Motion. What Plaintiffs do not point out is that the Interrogatories sent herein, and the answers, were prior to that stay. Second, this is not discovery, but investigation, i.e., attempts to examine court record and documents. This does not involves the issue of seeking to compel the Plaintiffs in the coordinated defamation actions to respond to questions or to

produce documents, but to enforce herein a right to inspect a public file. Additionally, there are <u>no stays</u> in the <u>other</u> actions pending by the Church of Scientology against Mr. Corydon, i.e., the one in which he is represented by Toby Plevin, and a defamation case filed by the Church of Scientology of California against Mr. Corydon in Washington, D.C.

30. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the motions before this court be granted.

DATE: 2-15-87

PAUL MORANTZ

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4	(213) 459-4745	
5	Attorney for Defendant	
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. 8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	FOR THE COUNTY	OF LOS ANGELES
10	CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY)	CASE NO. C 420153
11	OF CALIFORNIA) Plaintiff,)	DECLARATION OF
12		PAUL MORANTZ
13	vs.)	
14	GERALD ARMSTRONG, ET AL)	FEBRUARY 21, 1989
15	Defendant.)	DEPT. 56 9:00 A.M.
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I, PAUL MORANTZ, do hereby declare as follows:

I am the attorney for the Intervenor, Bent Corydon, and if called to the stand and sworn under oath I could competently testify as follows:

- 1. Plaintiffs Heber Jentzsch and John Carmichael, who are suing Bent Corydon for defamation, are represented by Timothy Bowles and Kendrick Moxon who represent the Plaintiff herein. Thus, the court has jurisdiction to order said attorneys, and has, to comply with the discovery requests in that case to identify which documents in the Armstrong case, if any, come within said discovery request.
- 2. Based upon our copy of the settlement agreement, that includes Armstrong, a motion was filed in the Coordinated Defamation Cases to dismiss for obstruction of justice and unclean hands, i.e., the paying off of several witnesses to not voluntarily speak, cooperate, or appear at any litigation adverse to Scientology. In a telephone conversation with one of the parties to said settlement, it was confirmed that said person did not have a claim pending against the Church of Scientology at the time Scientology offered the monies.
- 3. There is currently a Summary Judgment Motion pending in the Coordinated Defamation Actions. In opposition received, Timothy Bowles, attorney for Plaintiffs herein, argued that the Breckenridge decision should not have collateral estoppel effect because an appeal herein was pending.
- 4. Your Declarant telephoned the Court of Appeals clerk and discovered that no briefs had been filed. This is despite the fact that the notice of appeal was filed two year ago.

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- 5. There is currently a stay order on discovery in the Coorindated Defamation Actions, but the Interrogatories and the responses thereto, by Jentzsch and Carmichael, concerning what relevant documents may exist in the Armstrong file were made and responded to by both parties prior to said stay.
- 6. In opposition to Summary Judgement in the Coordinated Defamation Cases, Jentzsch and Carmichael filed documents for Church of Scientology records, even an affidavit from a custodian. Thus, these Scientology "Presidents" had the capacity to supply answers to Interrogatories, as do their attorneys, who are counsel for Plaintiffs herein.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is and correct to the best of my belief.

PAUL MORANTZ

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Feb. 15 , 1989

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